

MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bruce Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Julie Avera, Bruce Lewis, Peter Meigs, and Michelle Ramirez

Absent: Laura Miller

Also Present: Executive Secretary Clayton Lee, Lisa Faulkner of San Benito County First 5 Program

VERIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING

Executive Secretary Lee informed the PRC that the agenda for the May 25, 2010 meeting of the PRC was posted at both the Hollister Community Center and City Hall on May 20, 2010 per Government Code Section 54954.5.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2010 PRC meeting. Second by Commissioner Meigs. Motion passed 4-0, with Commissioner Miller absent.

Commissioner Miller arrives at 6:06 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Marne Drive Access** – Executive Secretary stated that he has not received any further information from San Benito County Public Works regarding the completion of this project. Lee informed the PRC that he will keep them posted as activity on this project progresses.
2. **Brigantino/Riverside Park Development Project** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that 800 tons of base rock to be used for the 1.5 mile access road around the perimeter of the facility has not been spread yet due to the late rains this season. As weather permits, this task will be completed. Bids for fencing around the wells and native vegetation area is being obtained by staff and completion should be accomplished

by the end of June. Staff is still hoping for a Summer dedication ceremony.

3. **Development Of Off Leash Dog Park In Hollister** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the PRC that staff, Commissioners and members of HDOG had met prior to the May 25, 2010 PRC Commission meeting. Topics of discussion were reviewing the draft plan, irrigation system estimates, and issues related to the Regional Water Quality Control Boards guidelines re reclaimed water in parks. Tammy Ballew from HDOG stated that she was getting some estimates from fencing companies for fencing and would bring those back to the group at the next meeting. Executive Secretary Lee will find out if more of the base rock is available for the perimeter access roads from the Leatherback demolition project. Additionally, Lee will check on the status of an estimate for renovating the irrigation system. The next meeting is to be determined.
4. **Dog Days Event** – Chairperson Lewis informed the PRC that the event was a success again this year. He enjoyed the activity and stated that it was very organized and well run. Executive Secretary Lee informed the PRC that there were approximately 600 attendees and that the City had provided not only the event location, but a portable stage and barricades for traffic control. The clean up was very thorough by HDOG and from the City's perspective a success.
5. **Hill Street Road Construction** – Commissioner Avera informed the PRC that she observed that the construction on Hill Street has begun. Executive Secretary Lee stated that they are still on task to be completed by the end of June 2010. Lee added that the Vista Park Hill is closed to the public during the construction and confirmed that there is a rental at the park on the 4th of July weekend and that Engineering staff assures the Recreation Division that work will be completed for this rental to take place.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Healthy People, Healthy Places Grant** – Executive Secretary Lee introduced Lisa Faulkner of the First 5 program San Benito Children and Families Commission. Ms. Faulkner explained that she was working on behalf of a number of groups including the Hollister Youth Alliance (HYA), Community Food Bank of San Benito County and the City of Hollister on an application for funding through the HEALTHTrust: Healthy People Healthy Places Grant. This private foundation will fund up to 2 grants totaling \$200,000 each which will “focus on communities most affected by poverty and obesity and have the capacity or demonstrated experience to make policy and environmental changes in their neighborhoods so all residents can achieve optimal health throughout their lifetime”. The application is fairly simple and needs to be submitted quickly. Ms. Faulkner explained that she has met with representatives of the various represented groups and developed a project. The focus of the grant application is to improve the community use of Dunne Park. This will be achieved by 1) an increase of physical

activity through park repair and enhancement, 2) an increase in social cohesiveness through community driven events or programs, 3) an increase in safety and security by intervening in the gang and crime incidents that plague Dunne Park, and 4) to execute a community-wide marketing campaign to promote the activities and improvements at the park. Additionally the grant proposal will help to fund improvements to the Dunne Park Clubhouse, tennis courts, restrooms and possibly improve lighting and install a water fountain.

The PRC was very supportive of the grant proposal. After brief discussion, Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to recommend City Council support of the Healthy People Healthy Places grant application being prepared by Ms. Faulkner. Second by Commissioner Meigs. Motion passed 5 – 0.

2. **Park of the Month** – Chairperson Lewis stated that he had gone to Hollister Community Center as it was the park of the month. He stated that it is an older facility that is in good condition and that it is the center of operations for the Recreation Division and for the Jovenes de Antano senior citizens programs. Executive Secretary Lee informed the PRC that Jovenes de Antano does not pay for the use of the facility and that one of the major needs of the center is for the carpeting to be replaced in the halls. It has been a number of years and it has not been done recently due to budgetary issues.

REPORTS

1. **Recreation Program Review** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with an update of the various Recreation Division activities such as Adult Softball, Adult Summer Basketball, Tee Ball/Youth Softball, Youth Tennis & Swim Camp, Flag Football and the Summer Aquatics program.
2. **Parks Division Review** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with an update on Parks Division activities including preparation of ballfields for league play and practices, soundwall maintenance, weed abatement, graffiti removal, and assistance with equipment for the Dog Days event. Lee also informed the Commission that Parks staff is working with the Hollister Downtown Association regarding the weekly Farmer's Market. Lee reported that a sewer lateral blockage at the Dunne Park restrooms caused them to be closed for several days. Staff also attended irrigation training and a safety seminar. Volunteers from the Devil Mountain Sam's RV Club from Antioch, CA assisted with painting a portion of the soundwall on Westside Blvd. just north of South Street. City Parks Division staff assisted with equipment and materials and the volunteer group performed the work with approximately 12 volunteers that worked for about 4 hours on Saturday morning May 22.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the PRC, Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. Second by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed 5-0.

The next regular meeting of the PRC will be held on June 29, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clayton Lee, Executive Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission